

FILED

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CATHY A. CATTERSON, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee,

v.

GEORGE MICHAEL SHIPSEY,

Defendant - Appellant.

No. 05-10207

DC No. CR 93-0624 DLJ

MEMORANDUM^{*}

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Northern District of California
D. Lowell Jensen, District Judge, Presiding

Argued and Submitted January 13, 2006
San Francisco, California

Before: NOONAN, TASHIMA, and W. FLETCHER, Circuit Judges.

George Michael Shipsey appeals the district court's denial of his motion for resentencing pursuant to United States v. Booker, 543 U.S. 220 (2005), after this court affirmed his conviction on 16 counts of fraud and theft from an employee pension fund. See United States v. Shipsey, 363 F.3d 962 (9th Cir.), cert. denied,

^{*} This disposition is not appropriate for publication and may not be cited to or by the courts of this circuit except as provided by 9th Cir. R. 36-3.

543 U.S. 1004 (2004). We have jurisdiction pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3742(a) and 28 U.S.C. § 1291. We affirm the district court’s denial of Shipsey’s motion for resentencing. We also deny Shipsey’s motion to recall the mandate in his prior appeal, No. 02-10651.¹

The district court correctly concluded that, because the mandate had issued in Shipsey’s prior appeal, the appeal was final.² No sentencing issues had been raised in that appeal and Shipsey’s conviction had been affirmed; the district court accordingly lacked authority to modify the sentence. See United States v. Penna, 319 F.3d 509, 511 (9th Cir. 2003) (“A court generally may not correct or modify a prison sentence once it has been imposed.”); United States v. Ruiz-Alvarez, 211 F.3d 1181, 1184 (9th Cir. 2000) (“A district court’s authority to resentence defendants must ‘flow’ from a court of appeals mandate or Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 35.”) (citation omitted).

As for the gap between the Supreme Court’s denial of Shipsey’s petition for writ of certiorari on November 29, 2004, and the issuance of the mandate by this court on January 18, 2005, we note that the federal rules require that “[t]he court of

¹ At oral argument, Shipsey was permitted to make an oral motion to recall the mandate.

² Because the parties are familiar with the facts and the procedural history of this case, we do not recite them here except as necessary to aid in understanding this disposition.

appeals must issue the mandate immediately when a copy of a Supreme Court order denying the petition for writ of certiorari is filed.” Fed. R. App. P. 41(d)(2)(D). Our docket indicates that the Court’s order denying certiorari, was filed on December 3, 2004. Thus, the mandate should have issued on December 3. There is no indication in the docket that any judge requested that issuance of the mandate be stayed, and Shipsey himself made no so request. The failure to comply with Rule 41(d)(2)(D) therefore appears to have been a clerical oversight. We thus deem that the mandate issued nunc pro tunc on December 3, 2004. The appeal accordingly was final prior to the Supreme Court’s decision in Booker.³ See also Bell v. Thompson, 125 S. Ct. 2825, 2833 (2005) (addressing Rule 41 and stating that, “[a]s a practical matter, a decision by this Court denying discretionary review usually signals the end of litigation. While Rule 41(b) may authorize a court to stay the mandate after certiorari is denied, the circumstances where such a stay would be warranted are rare.”).

For the foregoing reasons, we conclude that the district court did not err in declining to resentence Shipsey.

As indicated earlier, we permitted Shipsey to make an oral motion to recall the mandate in his prior appeal, No. 02-10651. To facilitate our review of that

³ Booker was decided on January 12, 2005. See 543 U.S. 220.

motion, defense counsel submitted the December 13, 2003, sentencing transcript following oral argument. After reviewing that transcript, we do not agree with Shipsey that, at that sentencing, the district court indicated that it might have imposed a lower sentence had it known that the Sentencing Guidelines were merely advisory. Thus, unlike United States v. Crawford, 422 F.3d 1145 (9th Cir. 2005), in which the sentencing judge had expressed explicit reservations about the sentence required under the mandatory sentencing guidelines, this case does not present extraordinary circumstances sufficient to justify recalling the mandate. See United States v. King, 419 F.3d 1035, 1035-36 (9th Cir. 2005) (concluding that extraordinary circumstances sufficient to justify recalling the mandate did not exist where, at best, the defendant only would be entitled to a limited remand for the sentencing judge to determine whether or not to resentence). The motion to recall the mandate accordingly is denied.

AFFIRMED.